

May 15, 2007

Director, Office of Water and Watersheds
U.S. EPA Region 10
NPDES Permits Unit
1200 6th Ave M/S OWW-130
Seattle, Washington 98101

RE: Comments on Proposed Reissuance of National Pollutant Discharge
Elimination System (NPDES) Permits # ID-002285-3, ID-002585-2,
ID002659-0

Dear Director,

The Lands Council is a nonprofit environmental organization dedicated to preserving and revitalizing out Inland Northwest forests, water, and wildlife through advocacy, education, effective action and community engagement. Nearly 1000 members of The Lands Council live or recreate within the Spokane River watershed and utilize the river extensively for boating, paddling, swimming, fishing and other water dependant/related activities.

The Lands Council recognizes the importance of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System and how it has reduced pollution discharges to waters of the United States. The US EPA is about to reissue three permits to Idaho wastewater treatment plants to discharge effluent to the Spokane River, a bi-state water system that affects Idaho and Washington.

As advocates for the lands and waters of the Inland Northwest, The Lands Council believes that the NPDES permits about to be reissued are not in the best interest of the Spokane River, nor the users of the Spokane River. We also recognize the time, research and resources that The Sierra Club has put into commenting on these permits. Therefore, The Lands Council supports and signs-on to comments made by The Sierra Club.

Brian Walker
Watershed Program Director
The Lands Council
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Spokane, WA 99201